

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO CINCPAC

COGARD

TREASURY

GOV GUAM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 25 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. KOREA

CSM ITEM FROM MOSCOW SAYS NK PREMIER PAK SUNG CHUL ARRIVED
THERE 1/24 "FOR TALKS EXPECTED TO COORDINATE STRATEGY
TOWARD THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION ON KOREAN ISSUES."

CURRENT INVESTIGATIONS INTO ALLEGATIONS SK INFLUENCE-
PEDDLING "BROUGHT UP" DURING BRIEF SESSION HOUSE SPEAKER
O'NEILL W/REPORTERS 1/24 (AP SUN; NB - NO DETAILS COMMENTS
REPORTED).

EX-AIDE TO LA GOV EDWARDS, CLYDE VIDRINE, TELLS FED GRAND
JURY 1/24 THAT HE PRESENT TWO OCCASIONS WHEN TONGSUN PARK
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GAVE EDWARDS 10,000 DOLS FOR 1972 CAMPAIGN. EDWARDS,
UNAVAILABLE FOR COMMENT, HAD LAST FALL AT FIRST DENIED
TAKING ANY MONEY FROM PARK, BUT ACKNOWLEDGED 10/76 THAT
HIS WIFE, "UNKNOWN TO HIM," HAD ACCEPTED 10,000 DOLS FROM
PARK. RECENTLY, GRAND JURY HEARING TESTIMONY RE FORMER
REP PASSMAN/EDWARDS' ROLES IN PURCHASES US RICE BY ROK
(WP'S MORGAN/ARMSTRONG).

2. THAILAND

TWO GUNMEN ON MOTORCYCLE SHOOT/KILL CHIEF THAI PERSONAL INCOME TAX DIVISION IN HER CAR--POLICE SAY THEY UNAWARE MOTIVE (AP WP).

LAT'S MCARTHUR (1/22) DOUBTS RTG CLAIMS OF BIG DRIVE AGAINST COMMUNISTS IN SOUTH/SEEMINGLY INFLATED REPORTS OF BODY COUNTS/PRISONERS. FEELS CLAIMED BIG OFFENSIVE LARGELY "WINDOW DRESSING."

3. CAMBODIA

READERS DIGEST PREVIEW OF NEW JOHN BARRON/ANTHONY PAUL BOOK, "MURDER OF A GENTLE LAND," SAYS COMMUNIST MOVES TO RADICALLY REORGANIZE CAMBODIA HAVE RESULTED IN DEATHS OF OVER MILLION PEOPLE (WSTAR 1/24).

4. JAPAN

JAPAN POSTED 470-MIL-DOL OVERALL BOP SURPLUS 12/76, COMPARED W/13-MIL-DOL SURPLUS 12/75 (WP). CULLISON (JOC) REPORTS 9.9-BIL-DOL SURPLUS IN CALENDAR '76 BRINGS COUNTRY'S BOP INTO BLACK FOR 1ST TIME IN 4 YRS.

JAPAN'S 1976 MOTOR VEHICLE PRODUCTION TOTALED RECORD 7.8 MIL UNITS, UP 13 PCT OVER '75 (CULLISON, JOC; WSJ).

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JAPANESE SHIPBUILDERS ASSN ANNOUNCES '76 ORDERS FOR EXPORT ROSE IN TONNAGE/VALUE, BUT DOMESTIC ORDERS FELL (WSJ)

5. MALAYSIA

FON OIL COS OPERATING IN MALAYSIA TO SPEND 600 MIL DOLS ON OIL EXPLORATION/PRODUCTION OVER NEXT 2 YRS. BULK OF INVESTMENTS WILL BE MADE BY SHELL, EXXON (JOC).

6. PHILIPPINES

MARCOS SAYS HE WILL SEEK CLEARER PLEDGE FROM CARTER/NEW CONGRESS FOR PHILS' DEFENSE AS PART OF NEW BASES AGREEMENT, BUT INDICATED HE IS WILLING GIVE PRES TIME TO WORK OUT POLICY TOWARD FUTURE US' BASES. MARCOS SAYS HE DOESN'T KNOW WHEN CARTER ADMIN WANTS RESUME TALKS, DENIED RUMORS AMB ROMUALDEZ WILL BE RECALLED IN FAVOR FORMER PRESIDENTIAL EXEC SEC MELCHOR, WHO WAS A MIDSHIPMAN W/CARTER AT ANNAPOLIS (MATHEWS, WP).

WIDEMAN (WP) DESCRIBES ANTI-US FILM BEING PRODUCED IN PHILS, ENTITLED "ONCE THERE WAS A MOTH." FILM MARKS 1ST

TIME GOP HAS GIVEN PERMISSION FOR PRODUCTION ANTI-US FILM. BASED ON ACTUAL EVENTS, MOVIE THROWS HARSH LIGHT ON BEHAVIOR US MIL PERSONNEL STATIONED IN PHILS.

PHILS' IMMIGRATION SATURDAY DEPORTED AMCIT STEPHEN TEICH FOR INTERNAL SECURITY REASONS. TEICH REPRESENTED RADIO PACIFICA IN NY (AP, WP).

SCIENTISTS AT INTL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE NEAR MANILA HAVE DEVELOPED NEW RICE VARIETY THAT THRIVES BEST IN SWAMP-LANDS. NEW PLANT REQUIRES NO PEST CONTROL/LESS FERTILIZER (REUTER MANILA).

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7. CHINA

WAIN (WSJ) REPORTS US-BASED MULTINATLS BEING CAUGHT IN PRC-ROC DISPUTE. EMPLOYING WHAT SOME BUSINESS OFFICIALS TERM HIGH-PRESSURE TACTICS, TAIWAN HAS SOUGHT LINE UP US FIRMS IN US-ROC ECON COUNCIL--GROUP DESIGNED FOSTER INCREASED US-ROC TRADE. BUT PRC HAS ALREADY TAKEN REPRI-SALS AGAINST SOME MEMBER FIRMS: AMER EXPRESS CO HAS FOUND PRC UNWILLING HONOR ITS TRAVELERS CHECKS, GENL ELECTRIC/ UNION CARBIDE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE GET AS MANY VISAS NORMALLY COUNTED ON FOR PRC'S IMPORTANT TRADE FAIRS.

REPORTS THAT PRC WAS BUYING COTTON IN CENTRAL/NORTH AMERICAN MARKETS MONDAY CAUSED PRICES COTTON FUTURES ON NY EXCHANGE RISE TO DAILY LIMIT 10 DOLS PER BALE (MAIDENBERG, NYT).

8. INDONESIA

HERSH (NYT) WRITES LENGTHY ARTICLE RE ALLEGATIONS THAT HUGHES AIRCRAFT USED BRIBERY IN INDONESIA TO GET CONTRACT. OFFICIALS HUGHES AIRCRAFT DENY CHARGES FROM GENL TELEPHONE/ELECTRONICS (GTE) THAT BRIBES OF AT LEAST 20 PCT WERE PAID TO INDONESIAN OFFICIALS IN ORDER SECURE CONTRACT FOR 160-MIL-DOL SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM. GTE CONSULTANT SUSPECTS CONSPIRACY; GOI INSISTS ALL CONTRACTS AWARDED FAIRLY.

9. GENERAL

MACARTHUR (LAT 1/23) REPORTS ASIA'S "MAVERICK" AIRLINES--

SINGAPORE INTL/HK-BASED CATHAY PACIFIC/THAI INTL--ARE
THRIVING DESPITE PRESSURES TO JOIN RATE-FIXING INTL AIR
TRANSPORT ASSN. OPERATING UNDER OWN UNUSUAL SET OF RULES,
ALL 3 OFFER AVG 50 PCT DISCOUNT ON TICKETS/WILL SHOW SUB-

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STANTIAL PROFITS FOR '76--WHICH WAS NOT A GOOD YR FOR INTL
CARRIERS.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. CHINA

IN LEAD EDIT RE PRES CARTER'S CALL FOR COMPREHENSIVE
NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY, "CRUCIAL QUESTION" IS POSED ABOUT
WHETHER USSR WOULD FORECLOSE ITS TESTING WHILE PRC "CON-
TINUES TO DEFY" EVEN 1963 LIMITED BAN ON ATMOSPHERIC/
UNDERWATER TESTS.

11. VIETNAM

TULLY (SF CHRON 1/12) SARCASTICALLY NOTES PETITION DE-
NOUNCING VN'S COMMUNIST REGIME FOR CRIMES AGAINST CIVIL
LIBERTIES WAS WRITTEN/SIGNED BY "NICE NINETY"--ALL FOR-
MERLY ANTI-WAR LEADERS. SAYS "IT TAKES SOME PEOPLE TIME
TO ADMIT THEY WERE WRONG."

12. JAPAN

JOC STATES FRG "SHOULD TAKE NOTICE" US' SUGGESTION THAT
US/FRG/JAPAN COORDINATE EFFORTS FOR WORLD ECON RECOVERY.
NOTES JAPAN HAS ALREADY RESPONDED BY INCREASING SPENDING
BUDGET OVER LAST FY BY 17 PCT, AND FUKUDA PLANS FY '77
REAL GROWTH RATE OF 6.7 PCT, WHICH HE SAID WAS GOOD SIGHT
BETTER THAN US/SOME KEY EUROPEAN NATIONS.

13. GENERAL

LONDON "OBSERVER'S" STEPHENS/FRANKLAND (GLOBE 1/23) LOOK
OVER HAK YRS, CONCLUDE REMARKABLE ERA IN US DIPLOMACY ENDS.
SAY HAK HELPED PROVOKE SHIFT INWARD OPENNESS IN GOVT BY
SUCH SECRET ACTS AS INVASION CAMBODIA. ADD MOST URGENT
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TASKS WHEN TOOK OFFICE WERE TO END VN WAR/REACH UNDER-

STANDING W/USSR; BOTH AIMS REQUIRED NEW APPROACH TO PRC.
OPINE SETTLEMENT VN WAR COULD HAVE COME SOONER IF BOTH
USG/ITS VN CRITICS READY ACCEPT PUBLICLY THAT WITHDRAWAL
WOULD MEAN EVENTUAL COLLAPSE SVN/CONQUEST BY COMMUNISTS,
BUT BOTH BELIEVED/PRETENDED ILLUSION THAT US WITHDRAWAL
COULD BE COMBINED W/NO-DEFEAT COMPROMISE SOLUTION. CALL
RAPPROCHEMENT W/PEKING "SPECTACULAR ACHIEVEMENT."
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Message Attributes

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